AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

The paragraph beginning on page 3, line 1, is being amended as follows:

Therefore, studies have been made on antireflection films having a single-silica layer structure, and it has been found that the ~~refractivity~~ reflectance of such a single silica layer antireflection film can be reduced when the antireflection film satisfies the conditions mentioned below. Thus, studies have been made for developing a single silica layer film which satisfies such conditions. Specifically, it is known that, in the case of an antireflection film comprising a substrate and, formed thereon, a single silica layer film, the minimum value of the reflectance R of the antireflection film can be expressed by the formula: $(n_s - n^2)^2/(n_s + n^2)^2$, wherein n_s represents the refractive index of the substrate and n represents the refractive index of the single silica layer film, with the proviso that $n_s > n$. Therefore, it has been at-tempted to reduce the reflectance R by adjusting the refractive index n of the single silica layer film to a value which is as close as possible to $n_s^{1/2}$ so that n^2 and n_s become as close as possible to each other.

The paragraph beginning on page 30, line 16, is being amended as follows:

With respect to the coating method of the hard coat layer forming material, there is no particular limitation, and the hard coat layer forming material may be coated on a transparent thermoplastic resin substrate by any conventional coating method, such as a dip coating method, a spin coating method, a knife coating method, a bar coating method, a blade coating method, a squeeze coating method, a reverse-roll coating method, a gravure-roll coating method, a slide coating method, a curtain coating method, a spray coating method or a ~~dye~~ die coating method. Among these coating methods, when the transparent thermoplastic resin substrate is in the form

of a film, it is preferred to use coating methods which can be used to perform a continuous coating, such as a knife coating method, a bar coating method, a blade coating method, a squeeze coating method, a reverse-roll coating method, a gravure roll coating method, a slide coating method, a curtain coating method, a spray coating method and a ~~dye~~ die coating method.

The paragraph beginning on page 63, line 12, is being amended as follows:

The thus obtained coating composition is applied to a substrate (e.g., the above mentioned transparent thermoplastic resin substrate which may optionally have a hard coat layer formed thereon) to thereby form a coating on the substrate. The application of the coating composition to the substrate can be performed by any of conventional coating methods, such as a dip coating method, a spin coating method, a knife coating method, a bar coating method, a blade coating method, a squeeze coating method, a reverse-roll coating method, a gravure-roll coating method, a slide coating method, a curtain coating method, a spray coating method and a ~~dye~~ die coating method. Among these coating methods, when the transparent thermoplastic resin substrate is in the form of a film, it is preferred to use coating methods which can be used to perform a continuous coating, such as a knife coating method, a bar coating method, a blade coating method, a squeeze coating method, a re-verse-roll coating method, a gravure-roll coating method, a slide coating method, a curtain coating method, a spray coating method and a ~~dye~~ die coating method.

The paragraph beginning on page 91, line 1, is being amended as follows:

that the coating (of the hard coat layer forming agent) on the PET film was ~~cure~~ cured by irradiating ultra-violet rays for 360 seconds using a fluorescent lamp (trade name: GL-20; manufactured and sold by Toshiba Corporation, Japan) (illumination intensity at a wavelength of 250 nm: 4 mW/cm^2).

The paragraph beginning on page 113, line 2, is being amended as follows:

In the silica-containing laminated structure of the present invention and the antireflection film of the present invention which comprises the silica-containing laminated structure, the porous silica layer formed on the substrate exhibits a ~~reflectance~~ refractive index of as low as 1.22 or more and less than 1.30, high light transmittance and excellent mechanical strength. Therefore, the silica-containing laminated structure and the antireflection film can be used as an optical part in various application fields, such as the fields of eye-glasses, automobiles, housing and building, agriculture, devices relating to energy, electronic information devices, household articles, business articles, and amusement articles.